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IMAGES IN CARDIOLOGY.....

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Separate anomalous origin of the left anterior descending artery and the left circumflex artery

52-year-old-man was referred following complaints of dyspnoea, and eructation. An exercise myocardial perfusion scan showed a small fixed inferior wall perfusion defect with normal left ventricular systolic function. Following a pre-syncopal episode he was admitted to hospital where serial cardiac markers, ECGs, full blood count and electrolytes were all normal.

Coronary angiography was performed which showed a rare abnormality of the coronary arteries. The coronary arteries were free of atherosclerotic disease. The left anterior descending artery was found to arise from the right coronary sinus just above the right coronary ostium. The left anterior descending artery passed between the aorta and pulmonary artery onto the anterior surface of the heart to follow its usual course in the interventricular groove (panel A). The left circumflex artery originated from the proximal part of the right coronary artery (panel B). It was possible to image all the coronary arteries using a single 6 French JR4 diagnostic

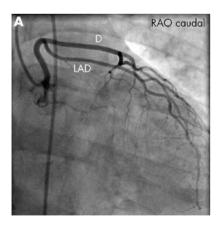
catheter and a single injection of contrast (panel C; to view video footage visit the Heart website—http://www.heartjnl. com/supplemental).

We describe a rare and unusual case of anomalous origin of the left anterior descending and the left circumflex artery. The left coronary artery arises from separate ostia in the right coronary sinus above the origin of the right coronary ostium. The left circumflex artery arises from the proximal right coronary artery.

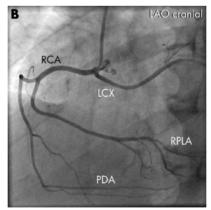


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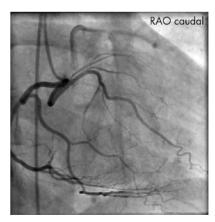
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Right anterior oblique (RAO) caudal view of the anomalous left anterior descending artery (LAD) arising from the right coronary sinus. The diagonal branches (D) are also shown.



Left anterior oblique (LAO) view of the anomalous left circumflex artery (LCX) arising from the proximal right coronary artery (RCA). The posterior descending artery (PDA) and right posterolateral branches are also shown.



RAO views of a single contrast injection showing all the coronary arteries.